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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/830,206	04/21/2004	Che-Kuei Mai	1176/202	9032
26588	7590	12/27/2007		
LIU & LIU 444 S. FLOWER STREET SUITE 1750 LOS ANGELES, CA 90071			EXAMINER LESPERANCE, JEAN E	
			ART UNIT 2629	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 12/27/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/830,206

Applicant(s)

MAI, CHE-KUEI

Examiner

Jean E. Lesperance

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 October 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4,7-13 and 16-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4,7-13 and 16-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. The a amendment filed October 15, 2007 is entered and claims 1-2, 4, 7-13, and 16-23 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed 10/15/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The applicant's representative argued that the prior art does not teach a sensing lines at the periphery of the active area and the first and second substrates. Examiner agrees but a new prior Art is found to teach on the above limitations. Heiser teaches a resistance strips opposing to each other corresponding to (the sensing lines) Fig.3 (50, 52, 130, and 138) and the first and second substrates opposing to each other Fig.4 (140, 132). Therefore, the rejection is maintained.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-2, 4, 7-13, 16-19, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 recites the limitation "the first conductive film" in line 4. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-2 and 11-13, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103 (a) as being unpatentable over USPN 5,153,572 (Caldwell et al.) in view of USPN 5,818,430 ("Heiser").

Regarding claim 1, Caldwell et al. teach a touch panel input device (touch sensitive control circuit Fig.1b (10), comprising:

a contact sensitive panel (touch panel Fig.1a (22)); and

a grounding conductor conductively coupled to the contact sensitive panel and configured to be conductively coupled to external ground (a ground shield (grounding conductor) (Fig.2 (42)) is directly connected or conductively coupled to the ground terminal (2) of connector (40) and wherein a ground terminal 2 of connector P1 is connected with a ground shield 42 on contact carrier 26 (column 2, lines 53-55) wherein the first section represents the connection from the ground shield 42 to the touch panel 22 and the second section represents the connection from the ground shield to the ground terminal 2. accordingly, the prior art teaches all the claimed limitations with the exception of providing a sensing lines at the periphery of the active area and a first and second substrates opposing each other. However, Heiser teaches a resistance strips opposing to each other corresponding to (the sensing lines) Fig.3 (50, 52, 130, and 138) and the first and second substrates opposing to each other Fig.4 (140, 132). Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the resistance strips and the substrates as taught by Heiser in the

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touch panel disclosed by Caldwell because this would provide a new and improved touch screen of the voltage-divider type which is reliable and whose positional accuracy and life are unaffected by physical abuse by providing an additional resistance strip to each substrate.

Regarding claim 2, Caldwell et al. teach the contact sensitive panel (touch panel Fig.1a (22)) comprises a first substrate exposed to contact by a user wherein (glass layer 24) where the user touches the touch panel (22), and wherein the grounding conductor is conductively coupled to the first substrate (the grounding shield (42) is connected to the touch panel (22) as seen in Fig.2.

Regarding claim 11, Caldwell et al. teach the touch panel (touch panel Fig.2 (22)), wherein the grounding conductor comprises a generally loop shaped structure (the ground shield (42) form a loop since the two ground shields are connected together and they are connected to the ground terminal (2) of the connector (40).

Regarding claim 12, Caldwell et al. teach the generally loop shaped structure is a complete closed loop (the ground shield (42) form a loop since the two ground shields are connected together to form a close loop and they are connected to the ground terminal (2) of the connector (40) as shown in Figure 2.

Regarding claim 13, Caldwell et al. teach the loop extends along the periphery of the contact sensitive panel (the ground shield (42) form a loop since the two ground shields are connected together to form a close loop along the periphery of the touch panel (22) shown in Figure 2.

Regarding claims 22, Heiser teaches a first conductive surface Fig.4 (140) and second conductive surface Fig.4 (132).

5. Claims 7-10, 16-19, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent # 5,153,572 (Caldwell et al.) in view of US Patent # 5,844,175 by Nakanishi et al..

Regarding claim 7, Caldwell et al. teach a grounding shield Fig.2 (42) which comprises an adhesive layer (28) which is on the same side as the touch panel (22) of Figure 2. The prior art teaches all the claimed limitations with the exception of providing a second conductive layer on the second substrate on the same side as the second conductive surface, wherein the first and second conductive layers are conductively coupled.

However, Nakanishi et al. teach the second substrate (lower substrate (1)) comprises a second conductive surface (the transparent conductive film (3b)), and wherein the grounding conductor is conductively insulated from the second conductive surface (the transparent conductive films have a difference in potential where the transparent conductive film (3b) can any number higher than 0V and the transparent conductive film (3a) is ground potential (grounding conductor) where the ground potential or grounding conductor is conductively insulated from the lower substrate (1).

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the lower conductive film (3b) as taught by Nakanishi et al. in the touch panel 22) disclosed by Caldwell et al. because this would

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provide an analog-type transparent touch panel having a higher quality and produced at lower cost.

Regarding claim 8, Nakanishi et al. teach the first and second conductive layers (3a and 3b) of Fig.2 are formed on the first and second substrates (1 and 2) along with the first and second conductive surfaces on the first and second substrates.

Regarding claim 9, Caldwell et al. teach the grounding conductor comprises a generally loop shaped structure ((the ground shield (42) form a loop since the two ground shields are connected together and they are connected to the ground terminal (2) of the connector (40) as shown in Figure 2).

Regarding claim 10, Caldwell et al. teach the loop extends along the periphery of the contact sensitive panel (the ground shield (42) form a loop since the two ground shields are connected together to form a close loop along the periphery of the touch panel (22) shown in Figure 2.

Regarding claim 16, Nakanishi et al. teach a display element operatively coupled to the touch panel, wherein locations on an active area of the contact sensitive panel correspond to locations on a display area of the display element (an analog-type transparent touch panel attached to a display device, such as a liquid crystal display device, which allows the user to input data in accordance with the display on the screen by using a finger or a pen (column 1, lines 9-13).

Regarding claim 17, Nakanishi et al. teach the display element is at least one of liquid crystal display element, plasma display element and cathode ray tube element (an analog-type transparent touch panel attached to a display device, such as a liquid

crystal display device, which allows the user to input data in accordance with the display on the screen by using a finger or a pen (column 1, lines 9-13) where the display element is liquid crystal display element.

Regarding claim 18, Caldwell et al. teach a device controller coupled to the display system or the touch panel and configured to process data corresponding to an image to be rendered by the display system (an analog-type transparent touch panel attached to a display device, such as a liquid crystal display device, which allows the user to input data in accordance with the display on the screen by using a finger or a pen (column 1, lines 9-14), where a display device that allows a user to input data in accordance with the display on the screen by using a finger or a pen inherently has a device controller.

Regarding claim 19, Caldwell et al. teach the electronic device comprising at least one of a portable device, a display monitor and a user input device (a touch panel, Fig.2 (22) which is a user input device).

Regarding claim 21, Caldwell et al. teach all the claimed limitations with the exception of providing a second substrate having a second conductive surface facing the first conductive surface, wherein the grounding conductor comprises a second conductive layer on the second substrate on the same side as and insulated from the second conductive surface.

However, Nakanishi et al. teach the second substrate (lower substrate (1)) comprises a second conductive surface (the transparent conductive film (3b)), and wherein the grounding conductor is conductively insulated from the second conductive

surface (the transparent conductive films have a difference in potential where the transparent conductive film (3b) can any number higher than 0V and the transparent conductive film (3a) is ground potential (grounding conductor) where the ground potential or grounding conductor is conductively insulated from the lower substrate (1).

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the lower conductive film (3b) as taught by Nakanishi et al. in the touch panel 22) disclosed by Caldwell et al. because this would provide an analog-type transparent touch panel having a higher quality and produced at lower cost.

6. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent # 5,153,572 (Caldwell et al.) in view of USPN 5,844,175 by Nakanishi et al. and further in view of USPN 5,818,430 ("Heiser").

Regarding claim 23, the combination of Caldwell et al. and Nakanishi et al. teaches all the claimed limitations with the exception of providing a first conductive film defines the first conductive surface and a second conductive film defines the second conductive surface. However, Heiser teaches a first conductive surface Fig.4 (140) and second conductive surface Fig.4 (132). Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize a first conductive surface Fig.4 (140) and second conductive surface Fig.4 (132) as taught by Heiser in the combination of Caldwell and Nakanishi because this would provide a new and improved touch screen of the voltage-divider type which is reliable and whose positional

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accuracy and life are unaffected by physical abuse by providing an additional resistance strip to each substrate.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C 102 (b) as being unpatentable over USPN 5,153,572 (Caldwell et al.”).

Regarding claim 20, Caldwell et al. teach a contact sensitive panel (touch panel Fig.2 (22)) comprising a first substrate (glass substrate Fig.2 (24)) having a first conductive surface (the surface of the touch panel (22) is being the conductive surface; a grounding conductor (ground shield Fig.2 (42) coupled to the contact sensitive panel (22) and configured to be conductively coupled to an external ground (ground terminal 2) , wherein grounding conductor (42) comprises a first conductive layer (28) on the first substrate (24) on the same side as and insulated from the first conductive surface (the surface of the touch panel (22) is being the first conductive surface).

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jean Lesperance whose telephone number is (571) 272-7692. The examiner can normally be reached on from Monday to Friday between 10:00AM and 6:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Hjerpe, can be reached on (571) 272-7691.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(571) 273-8300 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

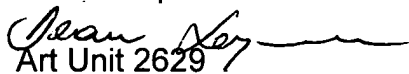
Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or


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proceeding should be directed to the technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office
whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Jean Lesperance


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Date 12/17/2007


RICHARD HJERPE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNICAL CENTER 2600